



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/845,679	04/30/2001	Timothy Anderson		2287

7590 10/07/2002

Gerald R. Black, Esq.
30590 Southfield Road, Suite 160
Southfield, MI 48076

EXAMINER

JOHNSON, BLAIR M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3634

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/845,679

Applicant(s)
Anderson

Examiner
Blair M. Johnson

Art Unit
3634



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 3623

Drawings

1. The corrected or substitute drawings were received on 2/20/02. These drawings are not approved.

The change to Fig. 4, i.e. changing element "33" to "65" is not acceptable due to the inconsistent use of these numbers in the specification.

2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 40;60;70. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the spring tension member must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the amendments to pages 6,7 and 10 must be resubmitted. These pages do not accurately reflect those pages originally filed. Each page begins and ends one line off from the original pages.

Art Unit: 3623

Roller 40, page 8, is not shown. Retainer 70 and opener mechanism 60 also are not shown.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. Claims 8, 12-17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

It is not clearly disclosed how the retaining system of Fig. 7c operates. Specifically, it is not clear how the door cover is retained within the recess 89. The latch system of Fig. 5 is not understood. The grooves in side members 24 and 25 are not properly disclosed.

The spring tension member, including the sidebar extensions, has not been properly disclosed.

Appropriate correction is required.

6. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

There is no antecedent basis for "each sidebar extension".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Art Unit: 3623

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

8. Claims 7-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by

Chomka et al.

The frame members of the opening comprise the first and second members. The roller is considered a retainer. The mere surfaces of the secondary members provide "cooperating means".

9. Claims 7,9-12,16-20,22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Woodside et al.

The door is only functionally recited. See Fig. 9. The roller has a torsion spring which meets the recitation of the spring-tension member, as best understood in view of the indefiniteness discussed above. The retainer comprises elements 10A and 211, element 211 being channel shaped. Otherwise, the reference is viewed much the same as Chomka et al above.

Art Unit: 3623

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 1-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crider et al in view of Morales.

Crider et al discloses everything except the window. However, Morales discloses a window and cover therefor as recited in a flexible fabric cover. In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to modify Crider et al to have such a window so as to provide viewing of the outside without retracting the entire closure.

12. Claims 1,5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crider et al in view of Grossman.

Grossman is applied to Crider et al for the same reasons as Morales has been applied, above.

13. Claims 13-15 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodside et al in view of Morales.

Morales is applied to Woodside et al as it has been applied to Crider et al, above.


14. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodside et al in view of Chomka et al.

Chomka et al is applied to Woodside et al as it has been applied to Crider et al, above.

Art Unit: 3623

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Blair M. Johnson

Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3634

September 30, 2002
Tel (703) 308-0526
Fax (703) 305-3597